Results from Video Streaming Questionnaire to DMD Members
February 2007

Elementary and Secondary Education

1. Detail what specific technologies you are using and highlight what ways you are using it.

We develop both real media and windows media files.

Project Examples:

- Governor's State of the State
- State of Transportation for MoDOT
- Finding Missouri video series, and classrooms access those videos when they do their unit on Missouri History. I have received many calls from schools telling us how they use those videos online frequently.
- Special Education did an entire certification process online using a streaming video
- We also stream videos for people to preview the video we are producing for them – so that they can give their approval without having to come and pick up a tape from our office.
- Monthly Capitol Dialogue and MO Legislative Update

Many can be accessed here: http://dese.mo.gov/divadm/telecom/

2. Does your agency maintain your own streaming server?

Yes, our Lottery and Education Telecommunications Services (LETS) host a Windows Media Server. We do have some teleconferences, several Public Service Announcements and a video series which are housed on the state's castor.mo.gov Real Media Server.

3. What have been both the pros and cons to how you are using it so far?

As far as streaming video goes, we've had great success with it in our agency and others.
Special Education did an entire certification process online using a streaming video. The only problems we had with that video being so widespread, and being done a couple of years ago, was that people with slower internet connections could not view the videos. LETS received many calls about problems at the time, but now rarely do.

Conservation

1. Detail what specific technologies you are using and highlight what ways you are using it.

They are using Flash to present our video. This allows us to control the presentation better than relying on video technologies that are tied to specific platforms or applications

2. Does your agency maintain your own streaming server?

We currently host the flash files on our servers, but are looking to move them offsite.

3. What have been both the pros and cons to how you are using it so far?

This is been easy to administer. The only problem is that we need Flash Pro to create files.

Social Services

1. Detail what specific technologies you are using and highlight what ways you are using it.

Streaming video is offered from the Department of Social Services web site. Media files are produced/recorded by DESE and streamed from DESE's media server. The media file is referenced and linked from a DSS web page; to accommodate those with technology or accessibility concerns, a text translation is provided as well as a link to the Window's Media Player Web site for downloading necessary software and/or technical assistance.

2. Does your agency maintain your own streaming server?

No. DSS utilizes DESE's streaming media server services.

3. What have been both the pros and cons to how you are using it so far?

Streaming video is used very sparingly due to bandwidth concerns. However, we have used this technique in the past to showcase significant promotions (examples: the MC+ For Kids and Foster Care Month campaigns). Currently, a welcome message from the DSS Director is offered to citizens for viewing.

Secretary of State

1. Detail what specific technologies you are using and highlight what ways you are using it.

Since we are primarily a Microsoft shop, we are using the Microsoft technologies (Streaming Media Server, Media Encored, etc) specifically for WMV files. We also have an application utilizing pseudo-streaming technology for MP3 files.

2. Does your agency maintain your own streaming server?

Yes

3. What have been both the pros and cons to how you are using it so far?

Not quite sure how to answer since we're still new. Pros -- seems relatively straight forward and simple to use, for what we are currently doing, but there is so much that can be done, that it has the potential of being difficult. Cons -- the creation/editing of the content itself; we currently are not doing it as yet, but the potential for a lot of work is there.

Lottery

1. Detail what specific technologies you are using and highlight what ways you are using it.

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We currently use Realplayer format for most of our streaming video but we do have a Windows Media server as well
and plan on using it more as well in the future.  Our uses for the technology include broadcasting our animated
draw show, news conferences, and PSAs.  This list of uses could very well expand in the future.
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2. Does your agency maintain your own streaming server?

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We do not maintain our own servers but use ones that DESE maintains.
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3. What have been both the pros and cons to how you are using it so far?

It is nice to have another avenue to be able to reach our players with news and winning numbers at their convenience. The only drawback, which becomes less of an issue as technology develops, is the storage and bandwidth requirements of streaming video.